

A RESOLUTION BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

02- R-1500

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000 TO ESTABLISH A MENTAL HEALTH COURT AS A FUNCTION OF THE COMMUNITY COURT WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL COURT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta Municipal Court has recognized a significant number of defendants brought before the court suffer from chronic substance abuse, mental health problems, or both and that these problems frequently contribute to the criminal acts for which such defendants are arrested, and

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta Municipal Court and the Atlanta Police Department wish to collaborate with mental health professionals to assist these defendants to resolve the mental health and substance abuse problems that often lead to their arrest, and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Justice is now accepting applications for grant funding to help local governments initiate mental health courts to assure that defendants with substance abuse and mental health problems are given appropriate treatment .

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section one: That the Mayor is hereby authorized to apply for and accept funding from the U. S. Department of Justice in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the purpose of establishing a mental health court as a function of the Community Court within the Municipal Court of the City of Atlanta as an expansion of the services offered by the Community Court.

Section two: That matching funds not to exceed \$50,000 are available in the Non-Departmental section of the 2002 General Fund budget and may be used to fulfill the cash match requirement of the grantor.

TRANSMITTAL FORM FOR LEGISLATION

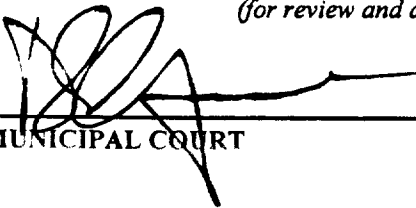
To Mayor's Office:

GREG PRIDGEON

(for review and distribution to Executive Management)

Commissioner Signature

From: Originating Dept.


MUNICIPAL COURT

Director Signature:

Contact (Name):

Dan Boozer 817-6782
or William Riley,
Associate Judge
853-8172

Committee(s) of Purview:

PUBLIC SAFETY & LEGAL
ADMINISTRATION

Committee Deadline:

Committee Meeting

Date(s):

City Council Meeting

Date:

CAPTION:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000 TO ESTABLISH A MENTAL HEALTH COURT AS A FUNCTION OF THE COMMUNITY COURT WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL COURT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE/DISCUSSION:

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS OFFERED TO SUPPORT NEWLY ESTABLISHED MENTAL HEALTH COURTS THAT FORGE COLLABORATIONS WITH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDERS TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS AND TO MONITOR OFFENDER PROGRESS AS THEY RECEIVE TREATMENT. THIS TYPE OF COURT IS A LOGICAL EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING FUNCTIONS OF THE ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY COURT.

FINANCIAL IMPACT (if any):

MATCH COST OF \$50,000. (ALREADY BUDGETED IN THE NON-DEPARTMENTAL SECTION OF THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET 1A01 761001 T31001).

PERSONNEL IMPACT:

NONE.

Mayor's Staff Only

Received by Mayor's Office (Date):

Reviewed (Initials):

Date:

Action by Committee:

____ APPROVED ____ ADVERSE ____ HELD ____ AMENDED
____ SUBSTITUTE ____ REFERRED ____ OTHER